

RANGE OF THERMOMETER.  
The following was the range of the thermometer yesterday: 9 A. M. 74; 12 M. 72; 3 P. M. 79; 6 P. M. 72; 9 P. M. 69; 12 M. 67. Average temperature, 72.

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## DREYFUS A FREE MAN ONCE MORE

Released From Prison at Rennes Yesterday.

## HE WENT TO NANTES.

His Departure From Rennes Was Entirely Unnoticed.

## PARTY AVOIDED OBSERVATION.

The Chief of Detectives and a Police-man Accompanied Them to Nantes After Which They Proceeded Alone—The Clerk of the Court of Cassation Dismissed.

RENNES, Sept. 20.—Capt. Alfred Dreyfus at 2 o'clock this morning left the prison here in which he had been confined since his return from Devil's Island and proceeded to Vern, where he took a train bound for Nantes. His departure was completely unnoticed.

M. Viguer, the chief of the secret service, and the prefect, M. Doreau, arrived at the prison after midnight, bringing the Minister of War's order for the release of Dreyfus. The latter walked from the prison and entered a waiting carriage and was driven to the Vern station, outside the town. Maitre Dreyfus met him at the train and accompanied him to Nantes.

While this dramatic turn in the Dreyfus drama was taking place all Rennes slept and the departure of the famous prisoner of Devil's Island was no more noticed than that of an ordinary traveler. The carriage which was in waiting was the same vehicle which took Dreyfus to his prison, when he returned from Devil's Island. Dreyfus got in through the back door of the prison and stayed previous to the attempt upon his life, and alighted about 500 yards from the station and walked in regardless of the drizzling rain. The Nantes train came in just as the famous prisoner was about to enter the station. Maitre Dreyfus quickly took their seats and the train went out of Rennes, bearing Dreyfus away, a free man.

A small crowd of people had awaited round the prison until midnight expecting the release of Dreyfus, but it then disappeared, thinking it too late for Dreyfus to leave.

Madame Dreyfus left Rennes at noon accompanied by her father and friends.

NANTES, Sept. 20.—Dreyfus arrived here this morning from Rennes, accompanied by his brother, Mathieu Dreyfus, the Chief of the Secret Police M. Viguer, and one policeman. The party traveled in an ordinary passenger train. The train stopped at the station at 8:15 A. M. The Dreyfus brothers alighted on the platform first, followed by M. Viguer, who inquired if they could have a private room. A waiter replying in the affirmative, the brothers entered a room and ordered two glasses of milk, while M. Viguer and the policeman remained outside in the public bar.

Inquiry was then made concerning the Bordeaux train, which they were informed, left at 8:25 A. M. After the brothers entered a first-class compartment, in which there were already other passengers. It was intended by thus refraining from an attempt to secure privacy, to avoid exciting curiosity, and this appeared to be accomplished. M. Viguer and the policeman only went as far as the first stop, Vern, when they returned to Nantes, leaving the brothers to continue their journey alone. It is believed the Dreyfus brothers alighted at an intermediate station to take a fresh start in an unknown direction.

BORDEAUX, FRANCE, Sept. 20.—The Petite Gironde, which three travelers arrived here today on the train from Nantes, one of whom was recognized as former Captain Dreyfus. They went to a hotel, intimating their intention to proceed by the Nice train.

DREYFUS FRIENDS REWARDED.  
PARIS, Sept. 20.—M. Monard, Clerk of the Court of Cassation, has been dismissed after thirty-one years' service, for giving M. Doreau, the prefect, the former chief of the civil section of the court, information harmful to the revision inquiry.

Major Hartmann, of the artillery, who gave testimony in favor of Dreyfus at the Rennes court martial, has been promoted to be assistant manager of the army gun factory at Puteaux.

DREYFUS MISSION.  
PARIS, Sept. 20.—The Aurore will tomorrow publish the following declaration from former Captain Dreyfus:

"The government of the Republic has given me my liberty. But liberty is nothing to me without honor. From today I shall continue to seek reparation for the frightful judicial error of which I remain the victim. I wish France to know by a definite judgment that I am innocent. My heart will only be at rest when there remains not a single Frenchman who imputes to me the abominable crime perpetrated by another."

Signed "ALFRED DREYFUS."

COMING TO AMERICA?  
LONDON, Sept. 20.—The Times publishes the following dispatch from Liverpool:

"A quantity of luggage has arrived here from Havre and Pulkowitsch addressed to Madame Dreyfus, and a young man has also been taken at a local hotel. The luggage is marked for New York, and it is supposed that Dreyfus is going to America."

The Paris correspondent of the Daily Telegraph says:

"Dreyfus is ill that he can live only a few months. The government has promised to watch over and protect him and has recommended that he live on the Riviera. It is unlikely that he will accept the offer offered him during the trial by the Prince of 'Monte Carlo.'"

FIVE CARS DERAILED.

Three Hundred Yards of Electric Roadbed Washed Away.

As a result of the heavy rains Tuesday evening and night, the workmen were busy repairing the tracks of the Richmond Railway and Electric Company on the west end loop of the Main-street line, near the residence of Mr. Crump.

On account of the grading of the street at this point the Electric Company were forced to move their tracks and make new foundations for it.

This work had just been completed and the cars were going smoothly along until about 11:30 Tuesday night, when the track gave away.

When the heavy rains set in Tuesday evening, those who had charge of this work felt some apprehension about this

special piece of track, as it had not had much time to settle and become firm and strong. As the rain continued into the night the motormen were on the look-out for some accident at this place. One of them said that about 10:30 o'clock the effect of the rain upon the roadbed would be distinctly perceived, as the track would sink considerably when the cars passed over.

As time went on the waving of the unsteadiness of the roadbed became more evident and the ballast seemed to be shoved from under the ties as the cars passed.

The motorman of the last car to pass this track, remarked to the conductor that the track would give away with the next car.

At 11:10 o'clock one of the cars left the track at the beginning of the newly constructed part and as several cars were following closely, they also were derailed at the same point. In all about five cars came to grief.

The track was at once examined and it was discovered that about three hundred yards of it was totally unfit for travel as the roadbed was badly washed in some places and the track sunk in others.

The cars were gotten back on the rails and the traffic over the loop was stopped. All day long yesterday the workmen were busy at work repairing the track and will have it in shape for travel by this morning.

Until the work is completed the cars will go no further than the Main-street sheds.

PRICES GO UP.

White Paper and Shoe Leather Register a Sharp Advance.

NEW YORK, Sept. 20.—Newspaper has gone up a quarter of a cent a pound within the last three weeks. The newspapers of New York city, according to an official of the company, which supplies all but two of the papers printed in this city, use 400 tons of paper daily at a cost of two cents a pound. The recent sharp advance means \$2,000 a day more to the newspapers, or \$70,000 a year, over the price which has heretofore obtained. The cost of the consumption is now \$14,000 a day. The tendency is to raise the price still higher. The advance in shoe leather of the last summer, which seriously impaired the water power of the paper mills. Book paper has also gone up a quarter of a cent a pound, and letter paper from three-fourths of a cent to one cent a pound.

The price of shoe leather has gone up from 2-1/2 to 3 per cent within the last week, owing to the scarcity of cow hides material. Shoe manufacturers have signed contracts with wholesalers to sell whole hides, which will not expire for months to come, and so the patrons of retail houses will not feel the advance until December. In the meantime the manufacturers who have bound themselves by contract will be the sufferers from the rise in price.

A sharper advance has been made in the price of crude sole leather. For two months the cost has been steadily going up, and yesterday it had advanced six cents per pound above the market price paid in August. Still higher prices are looked for by manufacturers. The increased cost is due to the scarcity of cattle as compared with the demand.

## DEWEY'S FLAGSHIP

A Committee From Here Seek to Have Her Sent to Hampton Roads.

A strong attempt will be made by leading citizens of Richmond to have Dewey's flagship, the Olympia, as well as a number of vessels from the White Squadron, in Hampton Roads from the 2d to the 6th of next month. With that end in view, a committee from the Chamber of Commerce and the Young Men's Business Association, led by William H. Harrison, last night, those who took the trip were Messrs. O. Herbert Punnett, of J. B. Elam & Co., and Robert Crump, of Harrison & Crump, representing the Y. M. B. A.; Mr. John Stewart Bryan and Colonel W. O. Skelton from the Chamber of Commerce.

This morning they will meet at the Raleigh a committee from Norfolk. The joint committee will wait upon President McKinley and Secretary Long and urge their request.

Senator Martin will introduce the members of the delegation to the President and Secretary.

## PLUCKY FARMER SAVED CASHIER

Young Man Attacks Palatine, Ill., Bank Official and is Captured After a Bloody Fight.

CHICAGO, Sept. 20.—Frederick J. Filbert, the aged cashier of the Palatine bank in Palatine, Ill., twenty-six miles north of Chicago, is being close to death as the result of an attack made upon him today by a young man who gives the name of Walter Lawton. The latter, who is unknown to anybody in Palatine, and apparently of good education, is in the county jail suffering from a fatal wound in the abdomen, which will probably prove fatal. Henry Plaggo, seventy years of age, a farmer, whose intervention at a critical moment prevented the outright murder of the cashier, is at his home near the village of Crest and branded and disabled as a result of his struggle with Lawton, whose motive for the assault, according to his repeated statements, was not robbery.

A VICIOUS ATTACK.

The attack upon Filbert was made with a tack hammer and the aged cashier was struck at least a dozen times before Plaggo interfered. The attack occurred at 3 o'clock in the afternoon. At this hour many of the residents of the community were thrown into a tumult by hearing the report of a revolver and the noise of a fierce struggle in the bank rooms. William Garmes, a farmer, was amongst the first to reach the bank rooms. As he entered he almost stumbled over the form of a man lying on the floor, with torn clothing and bleeding head, was feebly endeavoring to crawl through the open door.

GAMES OLD MAN.

Garmes turned and ran into the street, shouting "Murder!" and then returned to the bank. Sounds of a struggle still came from the rear room, and Garmes hurried to that apartment. As he pushed open the glass door he found the old German farmer, Plaggo, and a young man, who was fighting vigorously with a stalwart young man, who lay on the floor with Plaggo on top of him. A bloody tack hammer and a revolver, with a broken butt, lay on either side of the struggling men. The young man's clothing was stained with blood in the region of the abdomen. The crowd which had gathered, rapidly after the alarm, had been given, separated the two men and took the supposed robber to the village lock-up.

He was too severely wounded to offer any resistance, and this fact was all that saved him from violence at the hands of the crowd.

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## ROMANCE OF A RICHMOND BOY

Alleged Adventures of Harold L. Bishop.

## BRAVE LITTLE BRIDE

Eloped With a Beautiful Young Girl From Bar Harbor.

## BORE MISFORTUNE TOGETHER

The Bridegroom Served With Sampson During the Spanish War—His Father, Mr. S. E. Bishop, Has No Knowledge of the Interesting Events That Are Alleged.

A most romantic and thrilling story has been printed in Northern papers, one of the principal actors in which is said to be a well-known Richmond boy, Harold Leigh Bishop, son of Mr. Sylvanus E. Bishop, the widely-known Main-street merchant.

The story as printed at the North, is highly complimentary to young Mr. Bishop, presenting him in a most favorable light; indeed, a heroic light.

The romantic tale, however, seems to be all news to the father of the young man, involving, as it does, a season of gaiety at Bar Harbor, marriage to a beautiful girl, total destitution, and then a happy reconciliation with the father, with whom he is alleged to have quarreled.

Mr. S. E. Bishop said last night, after attentively perusing the above indicated story, that he had no knowledge of the series of interesting events described. His son Harold, he said, was at present on board the warship Massachusetts, from which he had written home about nine weeks ago.

## A ROMANTIC STORY.

The story as told in the columns of yesterday's Philadelphia North American, is as follows:

Mary Bishop, still in the first tender years of womanhood, bred in luxury, and knowing luxury only in the brick house, back rides on Mount Desert's hills, is heroine of a romance of young love and bitter hardship, which yesterday came to a turn into happier lines.

They were a stately couple, she and her sailor husband, and for months they were walking country roads, homeless and hungry. Yesterday they sat in a luxurious parlor car whirled toward the comfortable Virginia mansion, which the brave little bride will be mistress. A white-haired old Virginian is in the first hours of his delight in finding a wandering son and surprise at the qualities of the young woman who will preside over his household.

Howard Bishop left his home in Richmond, Va., at the outbreak of the war. He had served in the navy before, and the prospect of adventure, to his roving nature, seemed better than the comfort of his father's house. The older Bishop is a wealthy manufacturer, and the Bishop family is prominent socially in Richmond. Howard left, after a stormy talk with his father.

## IN THE NAVY AT SANTIAGO.

The young adventurer served in the navy throughout the war, and was in a gun crew at the battle of Santiago. Last spring he took his pay and started to see the world, not as a sailor, but as Mr. Howard Bishop, of Richmond. Bar Harbor attracted him. Bar Harbor was open to a Bishop of Richmond.

One day he found it was time to start again; his money was gone. There are society men who find ways of living in Bar Harbor without bank accounts, but the ways did not commend themselves to Bishop.

There was one woman to whom he had learned to speak more openly and simply than he did to others. She was only a girl, but she had known him, and she had sat in judgment of every action of life, and Bishop, bronzed and worldly, wise in a boyish sort of way, looked upon the tenderly-nurtured society woman as an amiable sort of dictator. He told her of his adventures, and she told him of the quarrel with his father. He said he was tempted to stay in Bar Harbor, even if he had to be a waiter or coachman, and he explained just why.

## AN ELOPEMENT.

She thought his reason good. "I wouldn't have you love a coachman or a waiter, I wouldn't stay around here," said he proudly. "I'll go away, and—some day soon—I'll wait for me, sweetheart, I know."

"I'll not, I'm going with you," she said. She did go with him. It was an elopement. They were married in Portland, last summer. Bishop worked as a life guard at Long Beach, the wife lived in a cheap boarding-house. Two weeks ago they came to Philadelphia; the seashore season was over. They boarded in North Tenth street in rooms that were cheaper than ever. Bishop could find no work. They were turned out of their room.

Homeless at last, they walked the streets and country roads. Ten days ago they slept in the Haddonfield police station—she in her last skirt, a silk one; he in the only clothes he could not sell, his old sailor suit. They told a little of their story to Lieutenant Robinson, and said they were going West on a freight train, if they could go in no other way.

Four days later came a circular inquiry by telegraph, worded in general terms, for the missing son of Mr. S. E. Bishop, father Bishop, of Richmond, was trying to find his son. Lieutenant Robinson recognized the description of his guest. He put the father on the right track.

"If she is the girl they say she is, I'll ask her to come and manage my house," said the gray Virginia widower.

Yesterday morning the Lieutenant received from the grateful father in Pittsburgh a telegram telling of the findings of his son, and saying that they were starting for Richmond.

DR. MORGAN COMING.

The New Pastor Expected at 3:30 o'clock This Afternoon.

Rev. Dr. Carey E. Morgan, the new pastor of Seventh-street Christian church, will arrive in Richmond at 3:30 o'clock this afternoon over the C. & O. railway. He has been spending some time in Indianapolis, Ind., where his wife has been visiting relatives.

Dr. Morgan will preach to his new charge next Sunday.

## NORFOLK'S FINE HOSPITAL BURNED

Fierce Flames Break Out in St. Vincent's.

## IN EARLY MORNING.

They Spread Rapidly and Totally Destroy the Building.

## TWO PATIENTS ARE MISSING.

An Insane Man and a Woman, Whose Names Are Not Known—The Other Patients All Removed—One Nurse Badly Burned—The Property Is Valuable and Will Be a Total Loss.

NORFOLK, VA., Sept. 21.—2:15 A. M.—St. Vincent's Hospital on fire. Caught in fifth story in south wing. Mrs. Dolan, nurse, badly injured. Flames spreading and burning fiercely. Just beginning to remove patients from the hospital. Valuable property involved.

2:35 A. M.—The fire is still in progress. Portsmouth department called upon for help. Firemen making stubborn fight to save main building. South wing fell in at 2:30.

Entire Wood-street side of building in flames. Flames now extending to Church-street wing. One woman known to be burned to death. It is thought the building will be a total loss. Building valued at about \$20,000.

3:15 A. M.—All patients have been removed. There are two patients missing—one man dazed and one woman.

No names can be had to-night. The building will be a total loss.

## BIG NORFOLK FIRE

Plant of the Norfolk Milling Company Burned—The Loss Heavy.

NORFOLK, VA., Sept. 20.—Special.—The plant of the Norfolk Milling Company was burned here to-night, entailing a loss of \$20,000, with \$10,000 insurance. Stock valued at \$5,000 was stored in the building. On this there is a net loss of \$2,000.

## EARLY MORNING TESTS.

Expert Schoen Has Tractor Cars Run After Hours for Experiments.

Important tests were made on the lines of the Richmond Traction Company between 12:30 and 1:30 o'clock this morning, with the purpose in view of discovering a remedy for the electrolysis evil which has been the bane of the company since the introduction of the electric cars. The tests were made under the supervision and direction of A. M. Schoen, the electrical expert, who is engaged now in investigating on the city's behalf the damage that has been done water and gas pipes by the action of the electrolysis.

In making the tests this morning it was necessary to keep every car running on schedule time, for the experiment was to discover a remedy that will be practical under the conditions of city operation of the system. It was an odd sight to watch a car after car flit by, the only persons on board being the motor-man and conductor.

At 2 A. M. Mr. Schoen appeared at the powerhouse and told the men on duty that the cars should be cut off. It was half an hour later when the last cars went into the sheds.

In seeking a remedy for electrolysis, it will be necessary to have the return current reach the powerhouse by some other means than that now in vogue. It is said that a scheme may be devised to have the return of the fluid go over wires stretched overhead, instead of taking the return underground.

## News of Andree?

STOCKHOLM, SWEDEN, Sept. 20.—The Aftonbladet, to-day received a telegram from the master of the Norwegian cutter, Martha Larsen, saying that he had found, September 9th, on the north coast of King Charles Land, the "Andree Polar Expedition."

## Earthquake Kills Hundreds

SMYRNA, ASIA MINOR, Sept. 20.—There was a disastrous earthquake this morning at Aidin, a town on the Mender, eighty miles southeast of this place. Hundreds of persons were killed in the Valley of Menderes.

## THE GOVERNORS DISCUSS TRUSTS.

Governor Sayers' Conference Meets in St. Louis—Much Difference in Opinion Amongst Them.

## ST. LOUIS, MO., Sept. 20.—The govern-

ors of Arkansas, Tennessee, Michigan, Missouri, Iowa and Colorado most of them accompanied by their attorney-generals and other representatives of Montana, Indiana, Mississippi and Washington, in response to the invitation of Governor J. D. Sayers, of Texas, to meet in conference for the purpose of discussing the trust question assembled today at the Planters' hotel, where three sessions were held. The conference will be concluded tomorrow morning, when the Committee on Resolutions will be ready to report.

Governor Sayers was present with his attorney-general and was chosen permanent chairman of the conference. Governors McLaughlin, of Mississippi; Foster, of Louisiana; and Candler, of Georgia, sent regrets.

MANY SPEECHES.

Most of the day was spent in speech-making and almost every one of those present was afforded an opportunity to air his views on the question. All the speakers were listened to with great attention. There were several tilts between speakers of opposite political faith, that gave spice to the proceedings. At the morning session Governor Stephens, of Missouri, made a partisan fling at the Republican national administration, criticizing its expansion policy, declaring that trusts and imperialism go hand in hand. Governor Shaw, of Iowa, took up the gauntlet thrown down by Stephens and at the opening of the afternoon session answered him with a speech that brought

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## RAPIDLY GETTING READY FOR WAR

England is a Ferment of Preparation.

## WILL MOVE SLOWLY

In Transvaal Matter But Will Not be Caught Napping.

## BOERS WILL YIELD NO FURTHER

And Say Unless England Recedes From Her Position War is Inevitable—Great Britain Is in the Condition of the United States Before the Spanish War Was Declared.

LONDON, Sept. 20.—Despite all outward show of calm, Great Britain is in practically the same condition today as was the United States a few weeks before the opening of the war with Spain. Beneath the crust of diplomatic reserve, the military officials are working night and day, preparing for the signal to begin hostilities, whether that comes or not.

England is not going to be caught napping more than the Transvaal. While Lord Salisbury is quietly at home in Hatfield house, Mr. Chamberlain is buried in work at the Colonial office and double forces at Royal Arsenal and dock yards are straining every nerve to equip and transport troops to the Cape.

Great Britain will do nothing to precipitate matters and the Colonial office is far from admitting that Great Britain has demanded the dismantlement of the forts at Johannesburg, together with a material reduction in the armament of Boers, the Colonial office today would prefer to confirm nor deny, although it is much doubtful.

Meanwhile the Marquis of Lansdowne, Secretary of State for War, who returned this morning from Dublin, has held long conferences with General Lord Roberts, Field Marshal, and General Sir Evelyn Wood, Adjutant General to the forces, and the activity at headquarters is reflected in the contract, supply and transport departments.

The departure of the Transport Jelunga for the Mediterranean to-day with 1,500 troops, was witnessed by a large and enthusiastic crowd.

## MUNITIONS OF WAR.

At Woolwich, activity is increasing daily especially in the ordnance department, where Maxim guns, Lewis machine guns, and other light armaments, water carts, ambulances, gas reservoirs, wagons for the transport of munitions, and other paraphernalia of modern warfare are being hurried forward.

While rumors of the reassembling of Parliament are current, the fact is recalled that in the Afghan war, in 1857, Great Britain declared war first and then assembled Parliament.

This evening the Marquis of Lansdowne, Secretary of State for War, who returned this morning from Dublin, has held long conferences with General Lord Roberts, Field Marshal, and General Sir Evelyn Wood, Adjutant General to the forces, and the activity at headquarters is reflected in the contract, supply and transport departments.

Advices from Cape Town this evening are to the effect that the Afrikaners declare that the Transvaal will not yield further and that if the Imperial Government does not recede from its present position war is inevitable. The South African press supports the contention of the Transvaal that the convention of 1881 should be maintained.

According to other advices the Boers are rapidly going into camp, and the exodus from Johannesburg yesterday reached 1,000 persons. The stock exchange at Johannesburg has resolved to close the moment martial law is proclaimed, and all current contracts will be carried out until the proclamation of a state of siege. In the meantime the merchants are erecting barricades in front of their shop windows.

At Pretoria the interest seems to be centered in the meeting of the Orange Free State Volksraad tomorrow (Thursday) which is hoped may somehow suggest a modus vivendi, that would save the situation.

## WILL BE ALLIES.

On the other hand advices from Bloemfontein announce the arrival there of a large number of the members of the Rand adding that the result of tomorrow's sitting is already agreed upon, as the Orange Free State will throw in its lot with the Transvaal, and the Free State Boers being fully armed and ready to start at a moment's notice.

A special dispatch from Johannesburg says that four hundred and fifty persons left by one train to-day.

Right Hon. Sir William Vernon Harcourt, Liberal member of Parliament for West Monmouthshire, and former leader of the Liberal opposition in the House of Commons, in the course of an address to his constituents, has advised him to yield, therefore, have made allegations which cannot be maintained by either.

Sir William declared that there was no cause belli and expressed the hope that the shameful catastrophe might be averted.

## MORE TROUBLE.

CAPE TOWN, Sept. 20.—The arrest of the Boer officials by the Portuguese is regarded as likely to create serious complications. Bands of women are sending a peace appeal to Queen Victoria.

## KRUGER FAMILIAR.

LONDON, September 20.—According to the Cape Town correspondent of the Daily News President Kruger in his personal appeal to the Boers, has addressed the monarch as "Dear Queen."

September 20.—A special dispatch from Rome says that the Italian government in reply to President Kruger's request for intervention has advised him to yield.

The Cape Town correspondent of the Daily Mail says: "President Kruger has cabled a strong personal appeal to the Boers beseeching her to intervene to prevent bloodshed. It is about a month in length, and is intended to avert the consequences of the Unco Guild when published."

Sir Alfred Milner has wired a courteous message to President Steyn assuring him that the northward march of the British troops is not meant as a menace to the Orange Free State, and requested to be

informed regarding the latter's attitude. Available information has been received here that a large command of Free State Burgers has been collecting near Boshof, on the Kimberly border. Two hundred Burgers were despatched to that point from Bloemfontein during the week past. If the Free State joins the Transvaal the first battle is likely to be fought at Boshof.

The Cape Cabinet has determined to prolong the session of the assembly indefinitely so that it may be sitting when hostilities begin.

Several warlike speeches were made yesterday by members of the House of Commons.

## THIS BOERS READY.

The Johannesburg correspondent of the Morning Post says:

The Boer preparations are as complete as the government can hope to make them. It is believed that martial law will be proclaimed in the Orange Free State if the Boers are not satisfied by that time.

It is said that the dispatching of British troops to South Africa will be considered as a casus belli. The Boers are urging the government to begin hostilities forthwith. It is felt that the Orange Free State can best be forced to action by a successful military demonstration on the part of the Transvaal.

## STILL HOPEFUL.

CAPE TOWN, Sept. 20.—Sir Alfred Milner's dispatch to President Steyn, informing him that the British and Transvaal governments are still hopeful of a friendly settlement, should this hope be disappointed, Sir Alfred looks to the Orange Free State to preserve strict neutrality and to prevent military intervention by any of its citizens.

"I am prepared to give formal assurance," says the High Commissioner, "that in such a case the integrity of the Orange Free State will be respected under all conditions. So far as her Majesty's government is aware there is absolutely no cause to disturb the present friendly relations between Great Britain and the Orange Free State. Her Majesty's government is animated by the most friendly sentiments toward the Orange Free State and there is no truth in any suggestion that her Majesty's government desires to impair the independence of the Republic."

The High Commissioner's dispatch is dated Sept. 18th. President Steyn under the same date replies as follows:

"The government of the Free State shares her Majesty's government's confidence in a friendly settlement and does not even see that force is the only solution. Looking to the state of apprehension in South Africa, the Orange Free State government regrets the necessity to ally itself with the British government, following upon other military preparations on their borders, should, as is not improbable, be regarded by the Boers as a menace to the Orange Free State and as a source of distrust, and should the unwished for development arise therefrom, the responsibility will not rest with my government."

## NEW BANK DIRECTORS.

American National Bank Holds Its Election.

The new American National Bank of Richmond, which will open its doors for business about October 15th, has chosen the following board of directors: Messrs. O. J. Sands, J. W. Lockwood, Jr., C. E. Wines, president of Wingo, Elliott and Crump Shoe Company; Philip Whitlock, manager of Whitlock branch of American Tobacco Company; William C. Camp, box manufacturer; W. R. McComb, president of Richmond Union Stock Yard Company; and McComb & Block, live-stock dealers; William J. Payne, president of the Newport News and Old Point Electric Railway Company; W. B. Saunders, of Saunders & Chambers, wholesale grocers; and Lewis L. Strauss, leaf tobacco dealer and president of Montgomery Tobacco Company.

The president will be Mr